

We Claim:

1. A method for composing services comprising the steps of:
 - 5 storing an abstract plan that specifies a set of logical processes in a predetermined form;
 - determining an instantiated plan that specifies one or more particular services that can perform each one of the logical processes of the abstract plan;
 - 10 and
 - evaluating an instantiated plan for violations of predetermined constraints relating to execution of the instantiated plan.
- 15 2. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of rejecting an instantiated plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of the predetermined constraints.
3. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of determining a
20 set of parameters concerning the instantiated plan, and an approximate range of each of the parameters.
4. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of composing an
25 alternative abstract plan if the evaluated instantiated plan violates at least one of the predetermined constraints.
5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the abstract plan specifies an ordered set of logical processes.
- 30 6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the abstract plan is represented using a web services composition language.

7. A computer program product for composing services comprising computer software recorded on a computer-readable medium for performing the steps of:

5 storing an abstract plan that specifies a set of logical processes in a predetermined form;

determining an instantiated plan that specifies one or more particular services that can perform each one of the logical processes of the abstract plan; and

10 evaluating an instantiated plan for violations of predetermined constraints relating to execution of the instantiated plan.

8. A computer system for composing services comprising computer software recorded on a computer-readable medium for performing the steps of:

15 storing an abstract plan that specifies a set of logical processes in a predetermined form;

20 determining an instantiated plan that specifies one or more particular services that can perform each one of the logical processes of the abstract plan; and

25 evaluating an instantiated plan for violations of predetermined constraints relating to execution of the instantiated plan.